

insignificance about the wave of glory peopled with angels, and flooding upon the world, that wonderful night as if heaven had burst earthward. There was no want of sublimity in the sound of the tidings, glad tidings, rushing in upon the world's despair like the sudden coming of springtide into the icy realm of winter, vocal with birds and radiant with flowers. There was no lack of magnificence and melody in that glad carol thrilling through the skies,

A glorious melody from realms afar,
And swelling on sublime, from star to star.

As we are spared to see once more this blessed anniversary, let us lift our souls into the high exultation of heavenly praise, and sing in response to the angelic anthem which resounded so long ago among the Bethlehem hills, and yet with a melody which has never ceased to echo in the history of the world, and in the hearts of men.

The Independent and War

In a recent editorial on the subject of universal peace, the *Independent* says, "And yet the Czar's appeal helps the perennial cry of the church for both peace and justice, never peace and injustice. At times the church wants war."

If human justice is, from the Christian standpoint, a justification for war, what a mistake Peter made when he didn't slay the rabble which assaulted Jesus in the Gethsemana garden, what a mistake our Lord made when he bid Peter put up his sword. "At times the church wants war." Then there are times when the devil and the church want the same thing, for if we mistake not the character of the devil, he always wants war. As a matter of fact the church never *wants* war. It may acquiesce in the proposition that an overruling Providence sometimes allows, or even sends war, to chastise national wickedness, and to liberate an oppressed people, but it does not recognize this expedient of extremity as a normal expression of ethical soundness or ideal fraternity. The plane occupied by the church is as different from this as day is different from night, and it no more *wants* war than it *wants* jails, penitentiaries, gallows, or that it *wants* poverty, sickness, death. What it wants is the triumph of those principles which will obliterate these signs of ruin and woe, principles to which war is as much opposed as satan himself.

If you wish to be miserable, you must think about yourself, about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay you; and to you nothing will be pure. You will spoil everything you touch; you will make sin and misery for yourself out of everything which God sends you; you will be as wretched as you choose.—*Charles Kingsley*.

Personal Mention

Brother W. J. H. Bauman will take charge of the work at Brighton, January 1, 1899.

Brother Witter reports one accession at Jones Mills, Pa. The work there is moving forward and strengthening.

We call special attention to the "Message of Christmas," by Dr. J. R. Miller, in our young people's department.

From Falls City, Neb., Brother Harrison writes: "Brother Gillin's meetings were a great success. The least of the results are what can be put upon paper. Our correspondent will send full report."

In his communication this week Brother Lyon makes reference to Sister Lyon as being quite ill. We are pleased to report that a postal card received says she is very much better. May the Lord bless her and family.

Our readers will be glad to hear once more from Brother Hilderbrand, Johnstown, Pa. He reports three accessions as a result of his visit to the churches in Washington and Greene counties. One of the applicants baptized is 87 years old.

The series of articles by Brother Moomaw on "Bible Portraits," are being read with much interest. This week's article, "Joseph," is exceptionally good. Brother D. C. Moomaw also gives us some very interesting articles on the book of Jonah.

We welcome brother W. J. H. Bauman back into our communion. No, brother, it will not be criticism, but the brotherly hand of fellowship. May the God of peace tenderly lead our brother and all of us in the way in which the children of God should walk.

Brother W. H. Myers, Nevada, Mo., writes that they can not do without the EVANGELIST in that country. Many others are expressing themselves as well pleased with the paper, and not willing to get along without it. It is a source of pleasure to us to know that the paper is appreciated by our readers.

We entirely agree with Brother Kimmel that one of the greatest needs of the Brethren church is a large endowment for Ashland college, and the institution well equipped for thorough work. This the Brethren church needs, this the Brethren church *must* have, and this by the grace of God she shall have. More about this next week.

Brother A. Byers writes: "We have just closed a four week's meeting in the Pike congregation with 22 conversions, including four yet to baptize. A number more would have confessed if it had not been for parents who stood in their way." We rejoice with Brother Byers and his people in this great victory for the Master. It is sad to see parents stand in the way of children coming to Christ. They should lead them to Christ.

Wendell Phillips said, "The answer to Confucianism is China; the answer to Buddhism is India; the answer to the Koran is Turkey; the answer of the Bible is the Christian civilization of Europe and America."

If we are known by the company we keep, we are known even more certainly by the books we read. Are we making companions of ill-written, sensational, inane, or vicious books? Then there must be something in us that responds to their evil or folly, and it is time for us to examine ourselves, and act upon the examination, if we desire to make noble men and women out of ourselves.

It used to be a Methodist custom in the South to hold great revivals, or camp meetings, in the open air. At such times and places vast multitudes would trample the sod into a mire, and large quantities of straw were provided, particularly beneath the front seats where the mourners were usually numerous, and more continued to come after the straw area had been filled up, whereat an excited brother leaped on

a bench and called out at the top of his voice: "More straw: more straw: here are poor sinners going to hell for the want of straw." Perhaps this was not a case of building hay and stubble on the good foundation, but experience has taught that much of the superficial result of excited and sensational revival meetings is constituted of combustible material. A spark of fire, a breath of wind, and lo, it vanishes.

"Tommy," said the teacher to a pupil in the juvenile class, "what is syntax?" I guess it must be the tax on whisky," replied Tommy. And the teacher thought he was entitled to a credit of 100 per cent. Both boy and teacher were right. Every dollar of money that goes into the United States treasury as so much revenue from whisky, goes there with innocent blood on it.

A mathematician has figured it out that one passenger was killed in accidents out of every 2,827,474 passengers carried on American railroads last year. According to this calculation a person can take a train 2,827,474 times before, on the law of averages, his turn comes to be killed. He will have to travel 72,093,963 miles on the cars before that turn comes, and 4,541,945 miles before he reaches his chance of being injured. If he travels twenty miles every day for 300 days in the year, he can keep on at it for 758 years before his turn comes to be hurt.

Success is a food or a poison; it enlarges or it kills.

ASHLAND COLLEGE

Winter Term Opens Jan. 3rd, 1899

Classes

will be sustained in the Latin, Greek, History and Mathematics of the Freshman and Sophomore years. Either Chemistry, Geology, Zoology or Astronomy, as the class may elect, will be taught. English, including Grammar, Rhetoric and Literature is emphasized. The Winter term studies of the Normal and Preparatory courses, including Beginning Latin and Greek, Plane Geometry, Caesar, Physical Geography, Algebra, English Literature, General History, as well as Common Branches, will be offered to students. We will organize classes in any branches upon demand by a sufficient number of students.

Bible Work

During the next term several courses in Bible study will be offered to all students. The Bible holds a more prominent place than ever in the curricula of our Colleges and Universities. Those who are preparing for the Ministry or Mission fields pay no tuition.

Expenses

are low. Tuition for term of twelve weeks is only \$8.00. Well furnished room can be had for 50 cents per week and Board can be secured for less than \$2.00 per week. During present term Board has averaged \$1.90 per week at the Hall. Some who boarded themselves, spent less than \$1.00 per week. Surely you can not hope to find cheaper rates. How can you afford to let the next twelve weeks pass without doing something in the way of securing an education?

Write for our *new circular* and catalog if you have not seen it. Any questions cheerfully answered. Address

J. ALLEN MILLER,
Ashland, Ohio.